CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON C O U N C I L

Non-Statutory Licensing Committee

Minutes - 17 March 2021

Attendance

Members of the Non-Statutory Licensing Committee

Cllr Alan Bolshaw (Chair)

Cllr Obaida Ahmed (Vice-Chair)

Cllr Greg Brackenridge

Cllr Keith Inston

Cllr Asha Mattu

Cllr Anwen Muston

Cllr Rita Potter

Cllr Phil Page

Cllr Jonathan Crofts

Cllr Zee Russell

Employees

Chris Howell Commercial Regulation Manager

Greg Bickerdike

Rachel Kynaston

Joanne Till

Amitabh Singh

Service Lead – Licensing
Section Leader Licensing
Market General Manager
Section Leader Licensing

Sarah Hardwick Senior Solicitor

Donna Cope Democratic Services Officer Jaswinder Kaur Democratic Services Manager

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. Title

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Milkinder Jaspal.

2 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Minutes of previous meeting

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Non-Statutory Licensing Committee held on 20 January 2021 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4 Matters arising

Item 5 – Greg Bickerdike, Service Lead - Licensing, and Chris Howell, Commercial Regulation Manager, advised Members that consultation into a voluntary CCTV scheme in licensed vehicles had started and the findings would be presented at the next Non-Statutory Licensing Committee.

5 Street Trading

Joanne Till, Markets General Manager, presented a report outlining the proposed changes in relation to Street Trading Consents.

Councillor Bolshaw moved the recommendations within the report. Councillor Page seconded the recommendations.

Resolved:

That Members of the Non-Statutory Licensing Committee:

- Approved the proposed changes to the scheme of delegation in relation to Street Trading Consents.
- 2. Noted the change in operational responsibility for Street Trading.
- 3. Noted the compliance and enforcement responsibilities.

6 Vehicle Licence Requirements Policy

Rachel Kynaston, Section Leader Licensing, presented a report outlining the proposal to publish a Vehicle Licence Requirements Policy following recommendations from The Department for Transport.

Councillor Inston moved the recommendations within the report. Councillor Muston seconded the recommendations.

Resolved:

That Members of the Non-Statutory Licensing Committee:

1. Approved the publication of the Vehicle Licence Requirements Policy.

7 Support for the re-opening of outdoor hospitality

Greg Bickerdike, Service Lead - Licensing, presented a verbal update on support available to businesses for the re-opening of outdoor hospitality.

He outlined the existing Pavement Licence Regime and reported that, following correspondence from the Government, the regime would be extended by a further 12 months to the end of September 2022.

The Service Lead proposed the following recommendation:

'To delegate authority to the Commercial Regulation Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Non-Statutory Licensing Committee, to make any necessary decisions regarding the extension of the pavement licence regime.'

Councillor Page moved the recommendation and Councillor Inston seconded the recommendation.

Resolved:

That Members of the Non-Statutory Licensing Committee:

1. Noted the update on support for the re-opening of outdoor hospitality.

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

2. Approved the proposed scheme of delegation regarding the extension of the Pavement Licence Regime.

8 Taxi Grant Update

Chris Howell, Commercial Regulation Manager, presented a verbal update on Taxi Grants.

He reported that following discussions with the Grants Team, the Additional Restriction Grant – Taxi and Private Hire Grant Scheme had been created, offering eligible drivers a one-off payment of £2,000.

The scheme and qualifying criteria were outlined, and the Commercial Regulation Manager responded to questions asked. He discussed the current status of applications and thanked staff for all their hard work.

Members were delighted with the scheme and praised officers for their hard work.

Resolved:

That Members of the Non-Statutory Licensing Committee:

Noted the update on Taxi Grants.

The Chair closed the final meeting of the Municipal Year by thanking the Vice-Chair, Members and officers for their support throughout the previous twelve months. The Committee reciprocated its thanks to the Chair.